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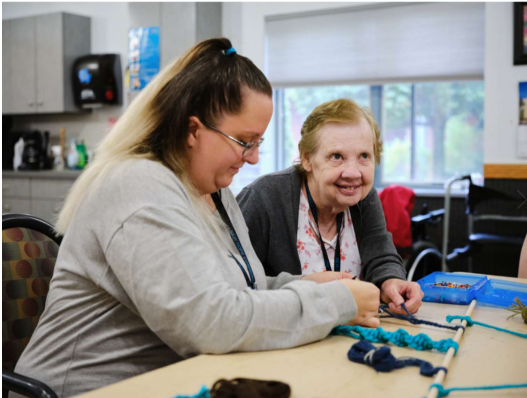
Executive Director Testifies at Budget Hearing



NYS Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs Executive Director Denise M. Miranda testified to the State Legislature in February about the agency's progress and the 2023 proposed budget. Ms. Miranda highlighted the agency's work to prevent abuse and neglect from occurring, including the agency's work on publishing prevention materials. Ms. Miranda also discussed how the agency works with individuals receiving services and their families or personal representatives and she highlighted new training initiatives the agency is offering both its own staff and providers around the state. Ms. Miranda closed her testimony by reviewing the extensive outreach initiatives currently underway at the Justice Center. "Preventing abuse and neglect is not possible without the partnerships we have formed in the last decade with families and provider organizations," Ms. Miranda said. "Our outreach to these communities remains vital to our success."

A copy of Ms. Miranda's full testimony and a video of the hearing can be found on the [Senate's website](#).

Code of Conduct Award Nominations Now Open



Know someone doing great work for individuals with special needs? Now is their moment to shine!

Nominations are open for the Justice Center's Code of Conduct Awards. The honor is given to staff members or volunteers who embody the ethical standards outlined in the [Code of Conduct for Custodians of People with Special Needs](#). The Code provides a framework intended to assist staff to help people with special needs "live self-directed meaningful lives in their communities, free from abuse and neglect, and protected from harm." Anyone who signs the Code is eligible to be nominated. The deadline for nominations is Friday, June 30th. New this year- anyone submitting a nomination can submit a video talking about why they think their nominee deserves this award! Winners will be announced during a virtual awards ceremony in September.

[Submit a Nomination](#)

Just Issued! **Effective Medical Care Prevention Toolkit**



One of the Justice Center's missions is to stop abuse and neglect before it happens. To help providers and staff provide timely, appropriate, and quality care, the Justice Center has added a new toolkit on effective medical care into its Spotlight on Prevention series. The toolkit explores a range of issues including best practices on medical care plans, agency policies, and staff training; information on special topics like medication, health changes, and end of life care; and training resources. Anyone can download all or part of the toolkit for use at their facility.

Effective Medical Care Toolkit

Telehealth Resources Now Available



Telehealth has been gaining in popularity thanks in part to the Covid-19 pandemic. Many physicians now offer appointments via this alternative method. The Justice Center understands the challenges telehealth appointments may present for individuals with special needs. In conjunction with the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Program (TRAID), the agency has developed a video series to help people understand how to use a tablet for telehealth appointments. The three-video series walks viewers through the basics of using an iPad, how telehealth appointments work, and how physicians' offices can make virtual appointments accessible to everyone. The video series is available for viewing on the [TRAID page](#) of the Justice Center's website.



The Justice Center will soon mark 10 years of service to individuals with special needs. The agency began operations on June 30, 2013. Since that time, the Justice Center has completed millions of pre-employment checks, made determinations in tens of thousands of cases, recommended countless corrective actions, issued a host of unique prevention materials, and supported thousands of individuals and families.

Throughout the month of June, the agency will be marking this important anniversary on its digital and social channels. Be sure to check out the [Justice Center's website](#) and the [agency's LinkedIn page](#) to learn more about our accomplishments over the last 10 years and what lies ahead!

Check out our Annual Report

Curious about what the Justice Center has been working on lately? Check out the agency's [2022 Annual Report](#). The report highlights agency initiatives, details the Justice Center's prevention work, support available to individuals and families, and has data on the agency's abuse/neglect casework. As a reminder, the agency also offers monthly data reports, systemic reviews, and forensic monitoring reports. All agency reports are available in the [reports section](#) of the Justice Center's website.

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